

storing, at a location associated with the intermediate address, the non-preferred e-mail address data when it is determined that there is no preferred e-mail address data associated with the non-preferred e-mail address data.

18. The method as recited in Claim 17, further comprising the step of:  
transmitting the e-mail message to the preferred e-mail address  
when preferred e-mail address data is associated with the non-preferred  
e-mail address data.

19. The method as recited in Claim 18, further comprising the step of  
sending a return e-mail message to a sender address from the intermediate  
address indicating that the e-mail message has been sent to the preferred e-mail  
address.

20. The method as recited in Claim 17, further comprising the step of  
sending a return e-mail message to a sender address from the intermediate  
address indicating that the e-mail message was not forwarded to the preferred e-mail  
address.

21. The method as recited in Claim 20, further comprising indicating to  
the sender that the intermediate address will withdraw the e-mail message upon  
receiving a request from the sender address.

22. The method as recited in Claim 17, further comprising the step of  
transmitting an e-mail message to the preferred e-mail address indicating that a  
user at a sender e-mail address is attempting to transmit an e-mail message to  
the non-preferred e-mail address.

23. The method as recited in Claim 17, wherein the storing step further  
comprising the step of:

storing the non-preferred e-mail address data until a recipient registers the preferred e-mail address data.

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24. A method for transmitting an e-mail message that has been sent from a sender address to a previously-known recipient e-mail address and rejected at the previously-known recipient e-mail address, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the rejected e-mail message at an intermediate address;  
determining a preferred recipient e-mail address from the rejected e-mail message; and

storing, at a location associated with the intermediate address, the previously-known recipient e-mail address when it is determined that there is no preferred recipient e-mail address associated with the previously-known recipient e-mail address.

25. The method as recited in Claim 24, further comprising the step of:  
transmitting the e-mail message to the preferred recipient e-mail address when a preferred recipient e-mail address is associated with the previously-known recipient e-mail address.

26. The method as recited in Claim 24, further comprising the step of sending a return e-mail message to a sender address from the intermediate address indicating that the e-mail message has been sent to the preferred recipient e-mail address.

27. The method as recited in Claim 24, further comprising the step of sending a return e-mail message to a sender address from the intermediate address indicating that the e-mail message was not forwarded to the preferred recipient e-mail address.

28. The method as recited in Claim 27, further comprising indicating to the sender that the intermediate address will withdraw the e-mail message upon receiving a request from the sender address.

29. The method as claimed in Claim 24 further comprising the step of transmitting an e-mail message to the preferred recipient e-mail address indicating that a user at a sender e-mail address is attempting to transmit an e-mail message to the previously-known recipient e-mail address.

30. The method as recited in Claim 24, wherein the storing step further comprising the step of :  
storing the non-preferred e-mail address data until a recipient registers the preferred e-mail address data.

31. A method for transmitting an e-mail message that was sent from a sender address to a previously-known recipient e-mail address that is associated with a first service provider, and rejected at the previously-known recipient e-mail address, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the rejected e-mail message at a second address;

determining whether there is a preferred recipient e-mail address, that is associated with a second service provider, from the rejected e-mail message;  
and

storing, at a location associated with the intermediate address, the previously-known recipient e-mail address when it is determined that there is no preferred recipient e-mail address associated with the previously-known e-mail address.

32. A method for transmitting an e-mail message that has been sent from a sender address to a second address, the e-mail message including a non-

preferred e-mail address associated with a first service provider, the method comprising the steps of:

- receiving the e-mail message at the second address;
- parsing the e-mail message to obtain the non-preferred e-mail address from the e-mail message;
- determining whether there is a preferred e-mail address, that is associated with a second service provider, from the non-preferred e-mail address; and
- storing, at a location associated with the intermediate address, the non-preferred recipient e-mail address when it is determined that there is no preferred recipient e-mail address associated with the non-preferred e-mail address.

33. A method for transmitting an e-mail message comprising the steps of:  
sending a first e-mail message from a sender address to a second address, the first e-mail message including a non-preferred recipient e-mail address; and

receiving, at the sender address, a second e-mail message from the second address indicating that the non-preferred recipient e-mail address is not preferred and that there is not a preferred recipient e-mail address associated with the non-preferred e-mail address.

34. A method for transmitting an e-mail message comprising the steps of:  
sending a first e-mail message from a sender address to a non-preferred recipient e-mail address; and

receiving, at the sender address, a second e-mail message from a second address indicating that the non-preferred recipient e-mail address is not preferred and that there is not a preferred recipient e-mail address associated with the non-preferred e-mail address.

35. A method for transmitting data comprising the steps of:

receiving electronic data at an intermediate location, the electronic data including non-preferred recipient e-mail address data;